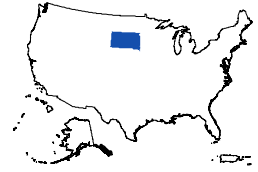


2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



South Dakota Summary

Overview

Interest in South Dakota for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was high in FY 2000. There were 181 applications requesting \$3,054,594 on 497,575 acres for Statewide Resource Concerns and 19 Priority Areas had 183 applications requesting \$3,300,425 on 326,017 acres to meet local area concerns. All applications were classified through a ranking process to identify those applications that provided the most environmental benefits for the dollars spent.

Accomplishments

Participation by landowners/operators was good in FY 2000 with 209 of the 364 applications being funded. This provided protection for 412,795 acres of land in both the Statewide and Priority Area programs.

Customer Focus

Fifth and sixth generations are caring for the Namminga land that lies just a few miles from the Missouri River in central South Dakota. Dennis Namminga, and his son Mark, have a cow-calf operation and are forward thinkers when planning for their natural resources. Dennis says that with the NRCS and his local conservation district, they completed an assessment of their natural resources and developed his long-range plan. Today they are participating in EQIP as a source of cost-sharing to help them carry out their conservation plan. He believes the upper part of the watershed must be managed to help improve water quality.

They have planted native grasses on marginal land, and added watering facilities that help keep cattle out of riparian areas and allow for better grazing distribution. Dennis says, "Our shelterbelt is also very important to our livestock feeding operation. You have to look at the whole picture in resource management. It takes a combination of practices to protect the resources for us and for future generations. In the past, a long-term Great Plains Conservation Program contract worked well for us. Now with additional land, a long-term contract under EQIP is helping us apply our practices." Dennis continues, "However, I would like to see a little more flexibility in being able to modify the contract."

Outlook

The EQIP is still a very popular program with landowners across South Dakota and it is expected that requests for assistance will continue to exceed funding by a 2 to 1 ratio. Proposals for 25 Priority Areas were ranked for FY 2001 as compared to 19 for FY 2000. Additional funding in both technical assistance and financial assistance would be beneficial to South Dakota.

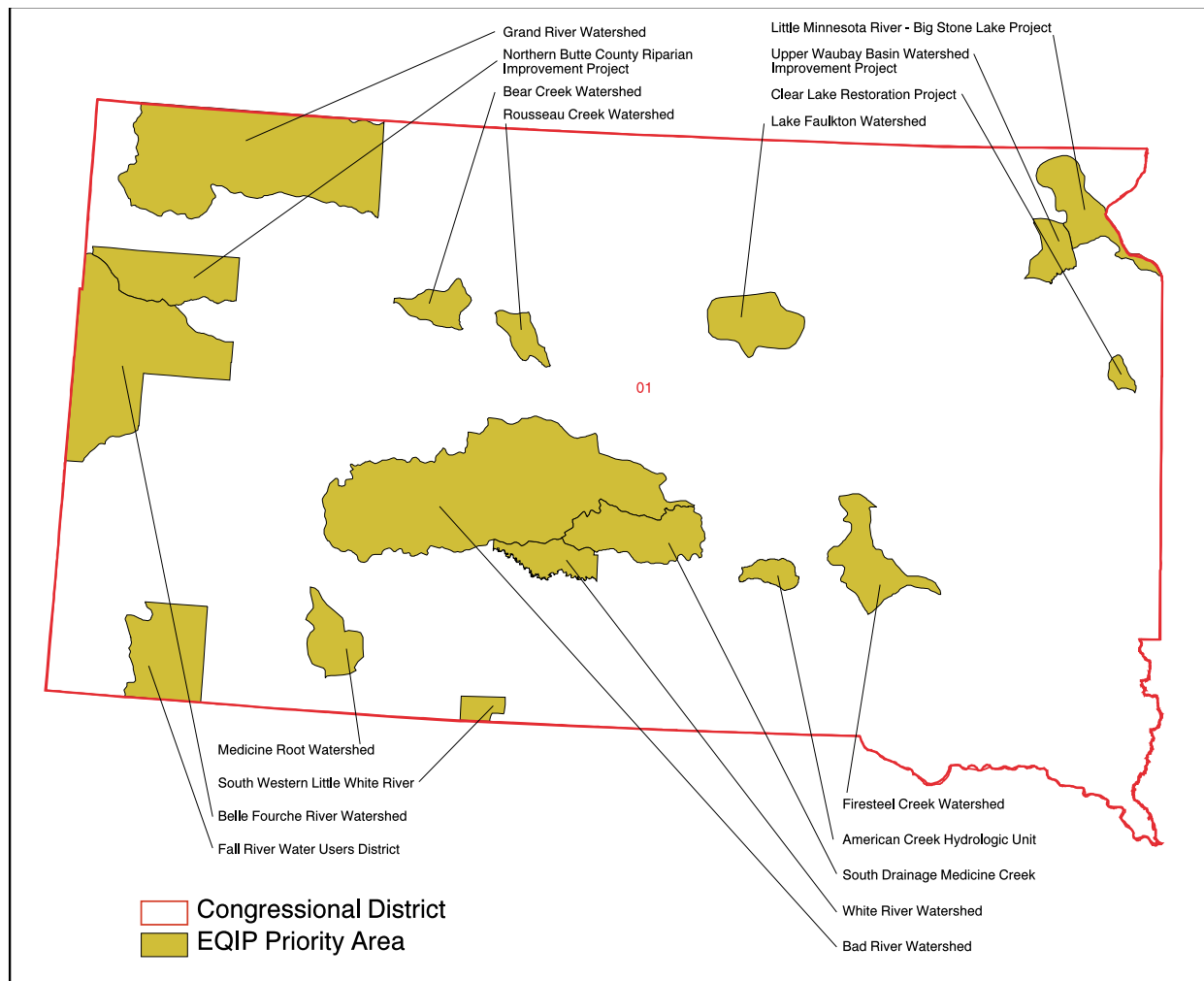
State Contact

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(605) 692-2344 ext. #2

*The Nammingas, Bon Homme
County, South Dakota*



South Dakota EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



South Dakota EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2000		Cumulative Total (97-00)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 0	\$1,026,209	65	\$4,841,709	461
District 1	2,514,550	154	9,629,180	692
State Totals	\$3,540,759	219	\$14,470,889	1,153

Note: EQIP contracts for each Congressional District are estimated from Conservation Priority Areas which may include more than one district. Congressional District 0 = EQIP Contracts for Statewide Natural Resource Concerns which can be in any Congressional District in the state.

Source: FSA Recordset type01, data through 4th quarter FY2000

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